

Washington, D. C., July 14, 1882.

Rev. Geo. L. Willard,

Rensselaer, Jasper Co., Ind.

Rev. dear father:

Your letter of the 29th ulto., was duly received. News of work in connection with the renewal of our school contracts has pre-empted an earlier reply.

All the contracts for which we asked, including one for 30 boys at St. Joseph's Normal School, have been prepared and executed by me, and are awaiting Gen. Upshaw's signature. He has not yet decided what he will do about them, but I feel perfectly confident that he will sign them in due time.

The St. Joseph's Normal School contract provides for the payment by the Government of the traveling expenses of the boys, but it limits the maximum age to 18 years. We asked to have the limitation as to age struck out of the contract, but both Gorman and Ketcham thought it best not to make such a discrimination in favor of our school, as it might seem invidious, and provoke unfavorable comment. I therefore did not press the matter. There is, however, a provision in the contract under which we can obtain permission to get pupils over 18, but we must ask for this permission in advance of obtaining the boys.

As soon as the contract is signed by Upshaw, I will send you a copy of it, and I will have Mr. Lusk send you the school-books of which you speak.

The pension of your sister-in-law will be allowed, but the Certificate will not be issued for some time yet, as there are a couple of thousand cases ahead of hers. Mr. Lusk wants to know if you received the Draft for \$10 he sent you.

Very truly, your friend,

J. A. Steger